

Appl. No. 09/198,004

Docket No. 97406.00032

AMENDMENT TO SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

In an apparatus for fluid analysis, ~~such as hematologic analysis,~~ a plurality of reagent-mixture components are each injected by a respective pump through a valve matrix and into a flow-injection unit. The flow-injection unit defines a mixing chamber including a plurality of ~~protuberances or nubs projecting inwardly toward the center of the chamber, and spaced relative to each other both axially and radially.~~ As the reagent-mixture components are injected into the mixing chamber, the nubs agitate the fluid flow and ~~create turbulence,~~ thereby dispersing the reagent-mixture components and in turn mixing the components together to create a reagent mixture. The flow rates of the reagent-mixture components are adjusted in order to select the reagent-mixture ratio as the components are combined in the flow-injection unit to thereby create the selected reagent mixture. Upon passage through the flow-injection unit, the reagent-mixture is injected into a sensing unit for analyzing a particle distribution of the mixture.